

Four Hundred and Forty Six

14

V E R S E S,

CONTAINING

HARSH TRUTHS.

IN WHICH ARE INTRODUCED,

A TRANSLATION from the *HIGH-DUTCH*:

AND A

F A B L E.

*Seditione, dolis, scelere, atque libidine, & ira,
Iliacos intra muros peccatur* —————

L O N D O N:

Printed for J. SCOTT, at the *Black Swan*, in *Pater-noster-Row*.

MDCC LVII.

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Four Hundred and Forty

T. E. R. E.

CONTAINING

HARSH TRUTHS

As in words and actions

A Translation from the HIGH-DUTCH

1740

T. A. B. L. E.

Translation, John, for the English of the

It is thus more correct

L. O. W. D. W.

Printed for J. Scott, at the Blue Swan, in Strand, London

MDCCLXXX

HARSH TRUTHS.

ONCE more, tho' much against my will,
I must resume th' impartial quill,
And throw aside my foolish fears,
To sound harsh truths in St——n's ears :
Ev'n tho' the spiteful critics bellow, 5
And call me dull insipid fellow ;
Ev'n tho' they make quaint observations,
And cram their journals with quotations ;
I will, tho't costs me time and pain,
Mix oyl with vinegar again ; 10
And tho' it really *were in spite*
Of nature and my stars, —— I'll write.
And yet, on due consideration,
I don't much like my situation ;
For critics (as I too well know it) 15
Are d---n'd ill-natur'd to a poet ;
A fault in rhyming will excite
Their envy, malice, wit and spite ;
They'll torture words a thousand ways,
To find out where an error lays. 20

B

And

[4]

And when by sophistry they've found it,
Reviews, and *Magazines* resound it :
 Whole sheets in creeping stile are wrote,
 To criticise one single thought,
 Whether in satire, song, or sonnet, 25
 If bad, then God have mercy on it :
 For soon as *A*——, *H*——, or *S*——t,
 Have found it out, thy'll surely maul it.
 Thus far in self-defence, my muse
 Has labour'd, — now for nobler views. 30

My country fall'n from greatest fame,
 To low *contempt*, *reproach* and *shame*,
 Requires the bitt'rest of my gall,
 To lash the authors of her fall.
 Begin my muse, and fear them not, 35
 However hard may be thy lot ;
 Say by whose fatal means and aid,
 Our wretched country is betray'd ;
 Expose those humdrums of the state,
 Whose faults and blunders are so great : 40
 Be not too nice in searching rhymes,
 But faithfully relate their crimes ;
 Throw each ambiguous term aside,
 And let impartial truth preside ;
 Boldly defy those pamper'd ——, 45
 Whose weakness soon will make us slaves, Unless

Unless some steady resolution,
 Is put in instant execution,
 To turn such *reptiles* out of *place*,
 And load them with a just disgrace. 50
 Let pension'd troops of scribblers spend
 Their brains, our St—men to defend ;
 Let them their *wit* and *sense* extol,
 And sound their *fame* from pole to pole ;
 Let them in fulsome *nonsense* raise, 55
 And patch their *deeds* with tags of praise ;
 This cook'd-up cov'ring cannot hide
 Their base *corruption*, *fraud* and *pride*.

To you, my countrymen, whose souls
 Abhor this nest of ruling *owls*, 60
 My muse in simple strains addresseth
 Her plaints, and thus her mind expresseth :
 “ Your land with brib'ry is o'er-run,
 “ Your ancient glory is undone,
 “ Your interests all are thrown aside, 65
 “ By those who at the *helm* preside ;
 “ Your present figure is so mean,
 “ All *Europe* views you with disdain :
 “ What sad reflections must prevail
 “ In you, who love the public weal, 70
 “ To see your country basely sold,
 “ By venal k—s, for foreign gold ! “ Ah !

" Ah! woful and corrupted times,
 " Replete with base and horrid crimes!
 " Justice and honour now are fled, 75
 " And vile corruption rears its head!
 " What say you *Britons*, don't you think,
 " Your land will soon to ruin sink?"

And now, methinks, I hear the nation,
 Exclaim against th' adm———n; 80
 And clowns and tradesmen all agree,
 To d---n the present M-----y;
 While one more angry than the rest,
 Thus storms aloud, and beats his breast :
 " Is't possible that men can be 85
 " So void of truth and honesty!
 " Gadzooks! whoever could imagine,
 " There were such villains in our region!
 " It makes my bosom glow with passion,
 " To be betray'd in such a fashion; 90
 " Our country sold! good he'ven protect us!
 " The world from hence will disrespect us;
 " Proclaim the news from shore to shore,
 " Old *England's* glory is no more!
 " Ah! may eternal discord ruin, 95
 " The authors of our sad undoing!
 " May heav'n and earth, and hell combine,
 " To show'r dread curses on their line! Must

" Must we poor peasants toil and sweat,
 " In winter's cold, and summer's heat ; 100
 " And from our scanty income pay,
 " Enormous taxes ev'ry day ?
 " And yet altho' vast sums are rais'd,
 " The nation's debt is still encreas'd !
 " The cause may justly thus be render'd, 105
 " Our treasures are most basely squander'd,
 " To pamper'd minions, whose support
 " Depends entirely on the c---- ;
 " To foreign princes who do lend us 110
 " Base mercenaries, to defend us ;
 " While *Britons* are deny'd th' occasion,
 " To guard their land against invasion."

Of this warm speech, methinks I hear
 Another thus his thoughts declare: 115

" There spoke a *Briton*, who still has
 " A due regard for country's cause ;
 " Who holds in utmost detestation,
 " The base conductors of the nation :
 " Passion may plead a just excuse, 120
 " When ———s our liberties abuse :
 " Where is the man that can pretend,
 " Their late proceedings to defend ?
 " Not all the pow'r of sophistry,
 " Can vindicate our m-----y ; 125

" *Minorca's*

" *Minorca's* loss will ever be,
" An instance of this verity."

Britons reflect, e're 'tis too late,
And dread your near approaching fate;
Consider well what risque you run, 130
To be eternally undone,
By those base flatt'ers of the _____,
Who dare not _____;
Who blindly grant in fawning guise
The fresh demands, the large supplies, 135
That _____ crave
_____ to save:
Oh! think, resolve, crush, and destroy,
Those en'mies of your liberty:
Death they deserve by *British* laws— 140
—Who shall resist a nation's cause?

That man must either have no sense,
Or else be stock'd with impudence,
Who dares presume to rule a nation,
That hates his base adm_____n; 145
'Gainst whom, and his detested faction,
This land calls out for satisfaction,
To whose account are justly laid,
Th' unhappy losses we have had;
Whose

Whose av'rice, pride and mean ambition, 150
 Have brought this nation nigh perdition :
 Oh ! that some speedy means were found,
 To crush such _____ to the ground !

O Truth ! thou virtue pure and fair,
 Thou stranger to a r——l ear ! 155
 Thou, on whose spotless front ne'er came
 The crimson blush of guilty shame ;
 How have our statef——n base and vile,
 Assum'd thy figure to beguile
 The best of K—gs ! how have they spread, 160
 Unpop'lar notions in his head !
 What subtle lies have they invented !
 How have things been misrepresented !
 What false aspersions have they cast
 On *one*, whose fame will ever last ! 165
 Whose steady wise adm——n,
 Would have redeem'd this bankrupt nation ;
 Whose eloquence and noble spirit,
 Are proofs of a superior merit ;
 Whose parts are equal to sustain, 170
 The glories of a nobler _____ :
 And yet this man, in whom the nation
 Had plac'd its safety and salvation,
 Has been (to *Britain's* shame and *cost*)
 Dismiss'd most basely from his post : 175
 Just

Just at a time when state affairs,
 Requir'd unusual pains and cares ;
 When schemes were forming to prevent,
 The ruin of the government ;
 When all superfluous *placemen* were 180
 Turn'd out, the public wealth to spare.
 But now, our smiling hopes are past,
 The pleasing scene short time did last !
 Our prospects of a better year
 Than last, already disappear ; 185
 This sudden change will overwhelm
 The constitution of our realm ;
 To wealth, down falls our country's cause ;
 To av'rice, liberty and laws !
 Truth, innocence and equity, 190
 Are sacrific'd to perfidy ;
 By *grants*, *reversions* and ambition,
 Our nation hastens to perdition.

Say, *Britons*, shall a man whose mind,
 Is to monarchic sway inclin'd ; 195
 Who would, for sake of gain, consent
 To bring in abs'lute government ;
 Who boasts that *England's* constitution,
 Draws on apace to a conclusion ;
 Who propagates egregious lies, 200
 On purpose that himself may rise :
 Say,

[II]

Say, shall your liberties and laws,
 Your honour, and your country's cause,
 Be trusted in his hands? ---- no, ---- sure
 Your patience ne'er can this endure ; 205
 You cannot sure behold your land,
 Put under such a man's command.
 Have you forgot last year's disgrace,
 And who then fill'd th' important place ?
 Have you forgot (altho' of late) 210
Minorca and *Oswego's* fate ?
 Have you forgot whose votes brought over,
 Troops from *Hesse-Cassel* and *H-----* ?
 A band of mercenary fellows,
 Who in their *High Dutch* jargon rail us, 215
 Whose pride, or rather impudence,
 Has justly giv'n this land offence ;
 Who have (as facts can ascertain)
 Spurn'd at our laws, with proud disdain ;
 Who, tho' they came for our *protection*, 220
 Laugh'd in their sleeves at our dejection :
 They ev'n have wrote in *High Dutch* rhymes,
 Lampoons upon the present times ;
 And in a jeering manner tell us,
 We *Britons* are but silly fellows. 225

The late affair in *Kent*, employ'd
 Some time their *German* wit and pride ;

C

A thousand

A thousand things they wrote upon it,
 In guise of epigram and sonnet;
 But one, whose time and pains were greater, 230
 Spun out his thoughts to lengthen'd satire;
 A copy which I found by chance,
 Is proof of what I here advance;
 But to convince our curious nation,
 I made the following translation. 235

- “ What mean you by this blust'ring noise?
 “ From whence do all these clamours rise?
 “ From whence proceeds this monst'rous pride?
 “ How dare you thus presume to chide?
 “ Say, haughty natives of this land, 240
 “ Must *we* be under your command?
 “ Must *Han*——*ns* stoop, or yield
 “ To those, to whom they are a *shield*?
 “ Must *we*, who guard you from *destruction*,
 “ Be brought beneath your jurisdiction? 245
 “ Must *we*, who fight your *country's cause*,
 “ Be govern'd by your foolish laws?
 “ No, no, fierce islanders, reflect,
 “ What *we* ordain you must respect;
 “ Consider, caitiffs, and beware; 250
 “ Your *guardians*, not your slaves we are:
 “ We came (as previously agreed)
 “ To be in every thing obey'd;
 “ Our

" Our soldiers faults ev'n when detected,
 " Are not to be by you inspected ; 255
 " Our laws alone must judge between us,
 " And from each paultry threat'ning screen us :
 " Hence, shadows of what once you were,
 " Learn *Han*——*ns* to revere :
 " Ye puny race of mortals, whence 260
 " Proceeds this matchless impudence ?
 " Shall *Han*——*ns*, who were born
 " To guard your kingdom, bear your scorn ?
 " Shall an audacious may'r pretend,
 " On petty theft to apprehend, 265
 " Or clap our soldiers up in prison,
 " Because two handkerchiefs are missing ?
 " Or, shall a puny linen-draper,
 " With testy humour, swear and vapour,
 " And huff, and strut, and threat'ning tell us, 270
 " He'll prosecute such filching fellows ?
 " But, let me tell good Mr. *Harris*,
 " His mind from mine extremely varies :
 " I'll ev'n on purpose to confute ye,
 " Most plainly prove it was his duty, 275
 " As well as int'rest to conceal it,
 " And not so bluffly to reveal it :
 " Besides, of what signification,
 " Has been his rash determination ?

" He fees that *Schraeder* is enlarged, 280
 " And from the *English* laws discharged ;
 " And likewise by his own confessing,
 " The wrong that's done him's past redressing ;
 " For if he should thro' mere distraction,
 " Appeal to us for satisfaction, 285
 " His goods and chattels, in this nation,
 " Would undergo a confiscation.

" Suppose you had a friend, whose aid,
 " And kindness you had oft essay'd,
 " Who had from many dangers sav'd you, 290
 " And from your enemies reliev'd you ;
 " Would you not with a grateful heart,
 " Of what you had, give him a part ?
 " Or if, thro' mere forgetfulness,
 " You should neglect your love t' express, 295
 " Would you look on it as unkind
 " In him, if he put you in mind ?
 " Would you not say ?" ' Dear Sir, excuse,
 ' My memory you must accuse,
 ' My Life, my all, to you I owe, 300
 ' Henceforth no diff'rence I will know
 ' Between us two ; pray Sir, be free,
 ' You have unbounded liberty,
 ' My *hose* and *handkerchiefs* to use,
 ' According as they suit your views.' 305

" Just

- " Just so, in due consideration
 " To us, as *guardians* of your nation,
 " You should with gratitude of heart,
 " Give us of ev'ry thing a part :
 " For this, I say 'twas d——n'd ungrateful, 310
 " As well as silly, mean and hateful,
 " In *Harris's* dogship, to take heed,
 " Of such a small and trifling deed :
 " Thus far you see it was his duty,
 " To let poor *Schraeder* keep his booty. 315
 " Next, I will plainly shew it was
 " His int'rest, to have let him pass :
 " Is it not certain he has lost,
 " (By this ungen'rous deed) the most ?
 " Has it not (past all dispute) lost him, 320
 " Our soldiers future love and custom ?
 " Will ever any of our men,
 " Buy handkerchiefs from him again ?
 " None sure, (except unworthy dogs)
 " Will buy from him, who calls them rogues : 325
 " Thus stands the case ; hence an't it plain,
 " To spite he sacrific'd his gain ?
 " Nay, (ev'n altho' unprecedented,
 " And all the nation should resent it)
 " I will maintain upon my life, 330
 " That if the soldier and his wife,
 " Had

" Had been with am'rous lust well-stored,
 " And planted antlers on his forehead ;
 " Ev'n tho' he catch'd them in the fact,
 " It was his duty to keep back ; 335
 " Nay, leave them to their time and leisure,
 " And not disturb their mutual pleasure.

" Hence, silly mortals, cease to flout us,
 " What could your nation do without us ?
 " Have we not chac'd that monst'rous fear, 340
 " You had before our troops came here ?
 " Have you forgot your situation,
 " When people talk'd of an invasion ;
 " Were we not sent for in a hurry,
 " To guard, defend, and to secure ye ?
 " Were not *French* orders countermanded, 345
 " As soon as we our troops had landed ?
 " Your st———n knew the consequence
 " Of bringing us for your *defence* ;
 " They knew they could not trust the land,
 " To be defended by a band
 " Of mobbing colliers, clowns and carters,
 " Who love continual winter quarters ; 350
 " Who would, when th' enemy drew near them,
 " Run off as fast as legs could bear them :
 " And therefore, with good sense and reason,
 " They brought us over in due season.

" Remember

" Remember, as you treat us, we 355
 " Will fight for you accordingly ;
 " If well, we'll keep you free from harm,
 " And baffle ev'ry *French* alarm ;
 " If badly, then we know our cue,
 " We'el join the *French* to conquer you : 360
 " Attempt not therefore, like base hectors,
 " T' insult, and huff your kind protectors ;
 " Nor in a blust'ring manner cry,"
 ' We *Hanoverians* do defy :'
 " No, no, this never will advance, 365
 " Your schemes against aspiring *France* ;
 " On us alone you must depend,
 " Your K—— and country to defend."

Thus *Britons*, are you scorn'd by those,
 Who by your means from nothing rose ; 370
 Whose land durst scarcely hope for day,
 Till *English* ——— mark'd out the way ;
 Where poverty had always reign'd,
 Till *British* ——— maintain'd ;
 That gulph, that ever constant drain, 375
 Of *English* industry and gain ;
 In whose defence, as 'tis well known
 More has been done, than in our own ;

In

For whom our _____,
 Employs his military skill, 380
 And (as _____ insist on't)
 To keep encroaching *Frenchmen* distant,
 Who long with eagerness to pillage,
 Each *H*_____n town and village:
 But if dame fortune condescends, 385
 To rank great _____ 'mongst her friends,
 And if her goddess-ship inclines,
 To grant success to his designs,
 The *French* must yield, and cry for quarter,
 And find they've caught at last a *Tartar*: 390
 So will a certain factious band,
 Who basely have betray'd our land.

Ah! me, what dangers dire and great,
 Surround that man, who rules a state,
 And who, regardless of applause, 495
 Forfakes for gain, his country's cause;
 Whose deeds are of the blackest dye,
 Who triumphs in his perfidy;
 Whose partial conduct to his _____,
 Pronounces him the worst of _____, 400
 Who by the means of forc'd elections,
 Supports the basest of all factions;
 In short, whose schemes, and selfish views,
 Cannot admit of an excuse.

For

Once, on a time, the feather'd race, 405
 Made an unanimous address
 Unto their King :—Their plaints were great,
 Against the rulers of their state ;
 They told him, that th' administration,
 Had greatly sunk their reputation ; 410
 That their bad conduct in their *places*,
 Had brought them under sad disgraces ;
 That none 'mongst all the birds and fowls,
 Were so unfit to rule, as *owls* ;
 They therefore hop'd his majesty, 415
 Would please to change the ministry.

To which address, th' imperial bird
 Affur'd them with his royal word,
 That strict enquiry should be made,
 How far they had their trust betray'd, 420
 And that if justice could detect them,
 No sort of favour should protect them.
 The owls, who saw the danger near,
 Resign'd with trembling, and with fear,
 And (conscious that their *deeds* were base) 425
 They sneak'd (like cowards) out of *place* :
 For wicked souls, as wise men say,
 Oft their own guiltiness betray :
 So did the owls : Their resignation,
 Was of their guilt, a confirmation. 430

D

Strong

Strong proofs were brought upon their trial,
Which could admit of no denial;
Their base corruption was found out;
Their wicked schemes to light were brought;
They were without the least debate;
Pronounc'd, *Betrayers of the state*;
And were condemn'd to hide their heads
In lonesome barns, and gloomy shades,
Debarr'd the pow'r to view the light,
But live in a perpetual night:
With how much equity and justice,
Ought those in whom our nation's trust is,
Those wretched guardians of our isle,
Whose ev'ry action is so vile,
Be banish'd from the haunts of men,
And live unpity'd in a den!

F I N I S

This Day is Publish'd; No. VIII. Price Two-Pence.

To be continued every TUESDAY.

Of a New Political Paper call'd,

The C R A B - T R E E.

CAlculated to open the Eyes of all ENGLISHMEN, not yet Blind through Interest or Prejudice; and to convince them how their once flourishing Orchards may dwindle to Crab-Trees: While the Manure intended for the improvement of the former, is inhumanly carried away, vainly to enrich the latter. — *Where may be had the former Numbers, which will be sent to all Parts of the Kingdom, without any additional Expence.*